Attorne Docket M. 33257/207653

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Technology Center 2600

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re:

Harper et al.

Confirmation No. 9981

Appl. No.:

09/903,300

Group Art Unit: 2621

Filed:

July 11, 2001

For:

METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR

AUTOMATIC EXPOSURE CONTROL

September 18, 2001

Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In The Claims:

Please amend Claim 1, as follows:

1. comprising:

(Amended) An imaging device for capturing optical image data, the device

an imager for generating an image signal;

a memory component that receives the image signal from the imager and stores the image signal as image data; and

a processor that executes an exposure control routine by implementing a first module that controls the exposure and gain setting in the imager and a second module that implements computations in response to exposure data transmitted from the first module to determine a targeted exposure and gain setting.

Please add new Claims 36-48, as follows:

09/26/2001 VTRUONG1 00000049 09903300

01 FC:102 02 FC:103 160.00 OP 234.00 OP